

THIS WEEK IN
LA VIE

FEATURES



Find out about significant events and people in the history of the LGBT movement.

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How does the Bible apply to homosexual relationships?

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Staff writer Erika Fisher highlights TV shows that portray prominent lesbian and gay relationships.

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Editorial: Why Write About LGBT?

La Vie issue focuses on LGBT community, topics, and issues

NICK THRAILKILL '14
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The U.S. began celebrating LGBT History Month in October 1994. LGBT History Month is an observance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history as well as the history of the gay rights movement in the U.S. Last Friday, October 11, was National Coming Out Day, which celebrates people who openly identify as bisexual, gay, lesbian, or transgender.

In recognition of these events, *La Vie Collegienne* devoted the majority of this week's issue to topics that are particularly important to the LGBT community.

Since this edition of *La Vie* is centered around LGBT-related topics and issues, it already appeals to members of the LGBT community on campus. But what if you're not a member of the LGBT community? Why should you read this edition if its subject matter focuses on experiences and issues that you may have never encountered?

There are several good reasons.

First, this edition seeks to raise awareness of the LGBT community on campus and around the country. It's important to raise awareness because oftentimes we as a nation ignore or downplay the presence of LGBT people. Many people ignore or downplay the LGBT community because they oppose different sexual orientations and transgender identities on moral or religious grounds.

Other people complain that they don't want the opinions of the community shoved down their throats. They don't notice that the heterosexual and cisgender (peo-



ple whose self-perceptions of their gender identity matches their assigned sex) community is overrepresented in the world.

These people accept heterosexuality and cisgender as normal because they're surrounded by heterosexuality and cisgender daily. As a result, they view sexual orientations and gender identities that differ from heterosexuality and cisgender as abnormal or weird.

Thus, it's important to let LGBT people express their viewpoints to show that there are alternatives to being heterosexual and cisgender and that it's okay to be lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender.

This edition also seeks to promote understanding, tolerance, and acceptance of the LGBT community. When the LGBT community is represented in public and in the media, its members are just as often mocked, vilified, or discriminated against as they are praised, accepted, and granted legal rights.

Martin Luther King, Jr., once wrote, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." If we deny members of the LGBT community their equal rights and unfairly judge and discriminate against them, it affects all of us.

These articles seek to counter-

act the prejudice and discrimination that target the LGBT community by letting students who openly identify as gay, lesbian, or bisexual to share their stories about coming out. Furthermore, our staff and contributing writers provide multiple perspectives on key LGBT-related issues and topics.

We hope that these articles show that though they differ from other people in their sexual orientations or gender identities, members of the LGBT community want to be accepted for who they are and exercise the same rights that the rest of us do. We also hope that you will be more tolerant, accepting, and supportive of members of the LGBT community as they continue to work for equal rights.

Please give this special edition a chance and read it. The articles might reflect what you already know. They might make you angry. They might teach you something that you didn't know about the LGBT community. Whatever your reaction might be, this edition should make you more aware of the LGBT community on campus, what issues they encounter, and what they stand for and value most.

N. THRAILKILL nat001@lvc.edu

A Message from President Thayne on LGBT Edition

This special edition of *La Vie* will contribute to a greater understanding of our LGBT students and to a climate of civility and inclusive excellence at Lebanon Valley College. We are a learning community where seeking out difference should be part of how we learn from each other.

In my Convocation Address, I asked first-year students to establish a common ground with one another, especially a common ground with those students whom we personally identify as different from ourselves. It is only then that we can establish a common ceiling where our shared aspirations for a better, more inclusive, and more just society can come into being.

I am very proud to be part of the LVC community and to see all the activity that promotes understanding and acceptance, dialogue and advocacy on behalf of our LGBT students. There will always be more work to do, but I am encouraged by the work of Freedom Rings and the programs sponsored by a variety of student groups during Freedom Week.

We will all want to be understood and to be respected for who we are as individuals in a supportive community.

My thanks to the staff of *La Vie* for their work on this special edition.

Warm regards,

Dr. Thayne

COMING OUT

Members of Freedom Rings Share Coming Out Stories

CHARELLE BRYANT '14
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When I was a preteen, I didn't know that bisexuality existed. I thought that I might be a lesbian, but I realized that that was impossible, because I was attracted to boys as well. I thought that there was something wrong with me and so I repressed my feelings for women for years. I made all sorts of excuses for why I loved looking at the women in magazines or movies.

By the time I was seventeen, I knew about bisexuality, but I had repressed mine quite deeply. I was so deep in the closet, I was coughing up mothballs. But one day, I



Charelle Bryant / LA VIE

actually realized and was shocked that I was attracted to a friend of

mine, and that I actually admitted it to myself. I realized, then, that I was bi, and that's when I came out.

My friends were supportive, but my mother thought that I needed to "choose one," that she could accept me as a lesbian, but that bisexuals are just "confused."

I'm happily engaged to my opposite-sex partner of almost three years, and I still haven't "chosen." I'm still attracted to women, and that just makes sharing porn with my (mostly) straight fiancée that much easier.

I'm free, at long last, from the closet, and now I'm free to love myself for who I am.

AMANDA STROUSE '17
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I tend to joke about my sexual orientation and masculinity all the time, and this tendency actually paved the way for me to come out as a lesbian in my senior year of high school.

Lunch tables in high school can be really crazy. One day, the people sitting at my table were really hyper for some reason, and one girl grabbed a water bottle and started spinning it, saying stuff like, "Whoever this lands on is amazing," and, "Whoever this lands on will get some soon." Then she said, "Whoever this lands on is the most gay of us all," and the stars aligned and the bottle pointed at me. While everyone was laughing at the outcome, I said in my regular sarcastic tone, "Yeah, pretty much."

If anyone had looked over at our table then, they would've seen the entire table erupting into complete hysteria and me becoming com-



pletely mortified and confused beyond belief. I didn't even get to say what my orientation was, yet everyone was going nuts and asking me questions. All I could do was sit there, petrified. Nobody had taken me seriously when I made jokes before, so I don't know why they took me so seriously then.

It didn't help that I have mild anxiety, which in senior year had been amplified by my high levels of stress about AP exams and the classes I had. For the next week or so, I wanted to hide and never come out (pun intended). I was afraid that someone who sat at that

table would say something about it and that word about my sexual orientation would spread like wildfire since my school was small (only 60 students in the graduating class).

Thankfully, no one leaked the news, although one girl who sat at my table jokingly hit on me, which got annoying after a while. I was glad my best friend and the band director were there to comfort me.

The only person who gave me trouble when I came out was my mom. Even though she had told me that she fully supported LGBTQ+ rights, she told me that I didn't know what I was talking about and shot me down. Meanwhile, my dad said nothing but gave me a reassuring, fatherly grin while my mom was griping about my coming out.

Since then, I haven't brought up my sexual orientation to anyone, and as far as I can tell, opinions haven't changed about me. So I'll consider myself lucky and be glad I came out with a bang.

Openly Gay Student Taunted with Homophobic Slurs

An openly gay student said she was taunted with homophobic slurs by about 20 male students at Acadia University. The males are said to have chanted insults in unison while waiting in line for a recent concert in the Acadia Student Union Building.

Officials at Acadia University investigated an alleged homophobic incident which occurred in September.

Have you ever felt like you were in a situation at LVC that appeared to constitute harassment or other acts of bias?

Are you the victim of abuse based on age, religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, or disability?

If you answered "yes" to either of these or similar questions, you are encouraged to bring your concerns to LVC's Bias Response Team.

We are a team of students and faculty that is dedicated to hearing about these matters and assisting members of the College community determine what responses might be made.

For more information or to submit a report, visit the "Bias Response Team" link on the main page of MyLVC.

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CAMPUS CRIMEWATCH

All information courtesy of the LVC Department of Public Safety

10-9-13 | Mund Dining Hall
Student was hurt while working in kitchen.

10-11-13 | Funk East
An umbrella was stolen.

10-12-13 | Mund
A non-student's debit card was found.

10-12-13 | Derickson B
Smoke from cooking set off fire alarm.

10-13-13 | Mund
Smoke from cooking set off fire alarm; ventilation was not turned on.

10-13-13 | Bishop Library
A fire alarm went off for unknown reason; Facilities called for elevator reset.

10-13-13 | Bishop Library
A fire alarm went off on the second floor, but there was no fire.

10-13-13 | Lynch
A fire alarm went off twice, but there was no fire either time.

10-13-13 | Public Safety Office
Student was threatened by another student.

10-14-13 | Sheridan Avenue at Vickroy
One silver earring was found.

10-14-13 | Mund
An AC reported that a student planned to commit suicide.

10-15-13 | Vickroy
Doors were blocked by garbage cans.

Please report any suspicious activity to Public Safety at x6111.

Corrections & Clarifications

It is our continuing goal to provide readers with complete and accurate information. To that end, we welcome and encourage notification of any mistakes. Readers who wish to submit corrections should send an email to lavie@lvc.edu, subject line: Corrections.

COMING OUT

Members of Freedom Rings Share Coming Out Stories

RYAN HOLLAND '16
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When I came out as gay, I had nothing but support from my friends, family, and teachers, but the road to coming out was no bed of roses.

When I was in Catholic school and being brought up as a good Roman Catholic boy should, I got called names like “sissy” or “faggot.” This was probably because I spent more time playing jump rope and talking with the girls at recess than I did hanging out with the guys, and the guys would often tell me, “You’re such a girl.” I never really paid any attention to what they said about me, although I thought that they must have thought I was weak

because I spent more time with girls instead of guys at recess.

When I started going to public school when I was a little older, at first my classmates thought I was a goody two-shoes because I always minded my manners and was polite to others. They also started calling me “gay,” a word that I had never heard before, but that apparently described someone whose mannerisms were flamboyant. So I started to wonder, “Is a person who’s gay really weak, nice, or kind?”

During middle school, I started developing feelings for other boys instead of girls, as members of my church and my peers said I should. When I talked to my friends about this and they told me that I was gay, I was scared because I thought they



Ryan Holland / LA VIE

were telling me that I was weak. Only later did I realize that this was not the case, after talking the matter over with my family, friends, and other people.

I decided one weekend that I’d finally come out to my parents, knowing full well that they and my friends might have rejected me for who I truly was. When I told my mom that I was gay, my mom said, “I’ve known for a while. I was waiting for you to figure it out. You are my son and I will always love you, no matter what. Just promise me one thing: you will be safe. That’s all I care about.”

When I told my dad I was gay, I was afraid that he would throw me out of the house or disown me. Instead, he said, “Ryan, you are my son. I love you for who you are, and that’ll never change.” Then he gave me the biggest hug ever.

After that weekend, I went back to school and told my friends and

some of my teachers that I was gay. They were very supportive, telling me that it was okay that I was gay because that’s who I am and that no one can change that, no matter what.

I was so happy that my family, friends, and teachers supported me when I came out, but not everyone has that support behind them. That is why I try to help people and be supportive of them, because not everyone is that open or understanding. What you take away my story is that you should be supportive of others because they need you behind them as a friend when the time comes for you to listen to what they have to say.

CLAIRE HEJNAS '14
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

My name is Claire Hejnas and I am a lesbian.

Though I started to question my sexual orientation in my freshmen year of high school, it took me a while to actually identify as a lesbian. For four years, I battled with myself because I felt like I had to be like everyone else, and so I kept telling myself that I did not and could not like girls.

In my freshman year of college, I finally started to accept the fact that I was attracted to women. At that time, I was sneaking around with a girl behind my parents’ backs.

When one day I was caught sneaking around by the police and given a warning, I knew that it was time to tell my family that I was a lesbian.

I live with my mom, my dad, my sister who is a grade above me, and my brother who is a grade below me. I wanted to tell my siblings about my orientation first, so I started with my sister. The day after I was warned by the police, I texted my sister to see when she would be home from college to talk. Twenty minutes after I sent that text, my sister walked into the house and said, “I’m home, so let’s talk.”

I was not prepared to talk about my sexual orientation so soon, but I told her. She took it well and was



Claire Hejnas / LA VIE

very supportive. She then suggested that I should tell the rest of my family about it in the same day. I thought she was crazy, but she con-

vinced me that it was a good idea.

Next, I told my brother. When my sister and I went to pick my brother up from his friend’s house after he spent the night there, I told him that I was a lesbian on the car ride home. He was also supportive and even said that he knew the perfect way to tell Mom and Dad: he would start by saying how he and I had something in common and then letting me take it from there. My brother, sister, and I laughed and joked around about it before we went back to the house.

It was finally time to tell my parents. I was very nervous when I approached my mom when she was folding laundry and my dad when

he was watching TV and told them to come into the kitchen and sit down with my sister, brother, and me. When my parents sat down, I froze. I wanted to say something, but no words came out. Then my brother said, “So, Claire and I have something in common,” which made me laugh and made it easier for me to tell them that I was a lesbian. It took my parents a bit to process it, but they have since supported me.

Since then, I’ve been telling friends that I am a lesbian. I have lost a few friends because of this, but the friends I have today are the ones that I know I can count on and that I love dearly.

JACOB SCHWAIM '17
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I was 14, impulsive, and a little too opinionated for my own good. My heartbeat steadily increased as I sat down at the kitchen table. My parents were the only ones in the house, so I had no excuses this time. I had to tell them this: it was now or never.

I called my mother into the room, and seeing my distress, she took the initiative of calling my father. I asked them to sit as I gulped down my fear and twiddled my thumbs. The next few moments were a blur, as they tried to coax the words from my throat. Finally, I blurted out the words, “I wanted to

let you know I’m gay.”

Unfortunately, the next few moments destroyed any hope I had of getting sleep that night. My mother looked right into my eyes and, without even taking a moment to pause, said, “God doesn’t make gay people.”

My head spun, my heart sank, and suddenly I needed to vomit. I tried to stand so I could just take a walk. My parents refused to let me leave the house that night and instead sat me down and prayed for the next hour that I might be cured. Afterwards, they left me alone in my bedroom, where I sat in silence for the next two hours.

I woke up the next morning dreading what my life would be

like. Thankfully, I wouldn’t see my parents that morning and I could



Jacob Schwaim / LA VIE

get to school relatively stress free. I walked through the front door

of the school prepared to take the same chance with friends that I had taken with my parents.

What a lot of people fail to realize is that coming out isn’t just a once and done ordeal. It’s something that you do over and over again until everyone important to you understands this basic, fundamental aspect of you.

In the band room, I pulled aside a good friend of mine, someone I trusted not to freak out. I looked around the empty room nervously and leaned in to whisper to her what I thought was the biggest secret I had ever kept. She stood for a second without saying anything. Without the slightest smile, she said, “Are you serious?” Given

the events of the previous night at home, I nearly cried right then and there. Apparently she noticed, quickly dropped the façade between laughs, and managed to get out that she had known. For a brief moment, I forgot everything and just let her hug me.

That moment when you finally feel accepted as who you are is the best moment in the world. While my moment of being accepted was my happiest moment, I wouldn’t change anything about that day or the night before. I’ve had problems like everyone else in this world, and they have molded me into the person that I am. Enduring the pain was worth it; enduring the pain is what made me happy.

FEATURES

Significant people and events in LGBT history

NICKI SHEPSKI '15
STAFF WRITER

1961 – Illinois becomes the first state to decriminalize homosexual acts.

June 28, 1969 – The Stonewall Riots break out at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village, NY. Policemen harassed the openly gay customers at the bar, and a riot broke out after customers got sick of it. Soon, other gay and lesbian people joined in, reaching numbers of over 1,000. This event is widely considered the catalyst of the modern gay rights movement.

November 27, 1978 – **Harvey Milk**, the first openly gay person elected to public office in California, was assassinated. He is a San Francisco icon who passed one of the first gay rights ordinances within the city, which outlawed discrimination based on sexual orientation.

1983 – Former Congressman **Gerry Studds** comes out as the first openly gay member of Congress and as the first openly gay Democrat.

October 11, 1987 – 500,000 people participate in the National March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights, inspiring the



creation of National Coming Out Day in 1988.

1987 – The Aids Memorial Quilt is revealed on the Capital Mall in Washington, DC. At the time of its first unveiling, it covered two football fields. The Names Project still hosts quilt displays and is continuously

adding new panels, although it is too large to be seen in its entirety.

1994 – **Steve Gunderson**, former Republican Congressman,



comes out as one of the first openly gay members of Congress and one of the first openly gay Republicans.

2004 – Massachusetts legalizes same-sex marriage.

2008 – California state constitutional amendment Proposition 8 is passed, overturning same-sex

couples' right to marry. The controversy over this amendment is still boiling as appeals continue even today.

2008 – Connecticut legalizes



same-sex marriage.

September 3, 2008 – Isis King appears as the first transgender contestant on *America's Next Top Model* and one of the first transgender people on television. She is currently signed with JB Models and has her own fashion line.

2009 – Iowa and Vermont legalize same-sex marriage.

2010 – New Hampshire legalizes same-sex marriage.

May 8, 2010 – **Chaz Bono** received a grant to change his gender and name. The only child of Sonny and Cher, he is an activist for LGBT rights.

May 27, 2010 – Congress repeals Don't Ask Don't Tell, allowing people to be openly gay while serving in the military.

2011 – New York legalizes same-sex marriage.

2012 – Washington and Maine legalize same-sex marriage.

2013 – Maryland, California, Delaware, Minnesota, and Rhode Island have all legalized same-sex marriage this year. New Jersey Superior Court judge Mary Jacobson has ordered state officials to legalize same-sex marriage on October 21.

View the full list of significant people and major events in LGBT history on *La Vie Online*.

N. SHEPSKI

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Lesbian and Gay relationships at LVC

GREGORY RENNER '15
STAFF WRITER

EMILIE HAMM '15
DANIEL GAGLIARDI '14
CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

For this special edition of *La Vie Collegienne*, which is focused around the LGBT community in observance of LGBT Pride Month, a couple of LVC students agreed to talk about their same-sex relationships.

Megan Brannan, 22, who is an LVC Area Coordinator, sat down for an interview about her relationship with her partner. According to Brannan, she and her partner met in Provincetown, Cape Cod, MA, at a bar during a young women's weekend while the two were vacationing there separately. Neither went in to that weekend looking for a relationship, but after meeting one another, they kept in touch.

Megan was finishing work on her B.A. in Art Education at SUNY New Platz at the time, while her soon-to-be partner was working in Connecticut.

"It became official the weekend of Memorial Day last year when she drove down to visit me while I was at school. It being a five-hour drive, [I knew] she was a keeper," Megan says.

Megan and her partner share a room in Silver Hall.

"The college campus is very accepting and the students are open-minded," she says. They attend sports games and go to MJ's Coffee House together, enjoying their time.

Megan also recalled the first time she introduced her partner to her family.

"I'm not the kind of girl to bring just anyone home. It has to be really serious for me to decide to bring them home," Megan explains. "My girlfriend [was] the first serious relationship that I decided to bring

home. I had a few small relationships in college, but nothing that I felt was serious enough to introduce to my family. When I brought [my partner] home, my mom was accepting and she is very open-minded."

But her father was a different story. "I wanted to be the one to tell my father," she says, "but my mom told him. She thought she was protecting me, but my father didn't take it as well. We didn't speak for six months."

But now that's behind her. Her father is now best friends with her partner.

In a separate interview with *La Vie*, a male student, who asked to remain anonymous, spoke about his relationship with his partner.

"I'm currently in a long distance relationship with my boyfriend, since both of us go to different colleges. I have known him for three years at my summer job and admired him, and I knew I had feelings for him since the first time we started

working together," he says.

"We got together this past summer because I finally worked up the courage to tell him how I felt, and I found out that he had similar feelings for me as well. We have been together for the past two months."

The 21-year-old LVC student describes his relationship with his partner as being separated by geography.

"It was a pretty hard adjustment going from being able to see him every day at work, and occasionally hanging out together on our days off, to not being able to see each other at all, for the most part," he says. "We do text often and we tend to talk on Skype or Facebook throughout the day. We are both very happy being with each other and I am happy to have someone who loves me as much as he does because he makes me feel better about myself and my life."

The student also shared the story of his coming out to his family and

friends. "I told my immediate family about a week after my boyfriend and I started going out over the summer. Generally most of my family and friends were supportive and accepting, but I have lost a few people I thought were my friends with words like, 'That's shameful,' and, 'That's just not right.'"

The student says his stepfather was less than supportive after the student came out to him. "My stepdad told me on my way to work the one day, 'You're lucky I already went through this with your stepbrother. Otherwise, I would probably be furious with you.'"

But over time, the student's stepfather has more supportive of the student's sexual orientation, and the student hopes that other people will be supportive as well.

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A&E

Television shows portray prominent LGBT relationships

ERIKA FISHER '17
STAFF WRITER

It can certainly be argued that as goes society, so goes TV – particularly when it comes to the acceptance of evolving views on sexuality. Television has gone from ignoring LGBT relationships to giving them focus and spotlight, along with the positive messages of acceptance and tolerance. As proof, there's a crop of TV programs that mirror society's acceptance of relationships that were once considered taboo.

Buffy the Vampire Slayer portrayed one of the most significant LGBT relationships on television. In season 4 of the show, fan favorite Willow (Alyson Hannigan) engaged in a deep relationship with fellow witch Tara (Amber Benson). They soon became among the most stable couples in the show.

The relationship between Tara and Willow continued until the death of the former. The emotional aftermath of Tara's death became the catalyst for one of the series' most powerful storylines involving Willow. Outside the show, the relationship between Willow and Tara was one of the first long-term lesbian relationships on TV. After the death of Tara, a backlash followed and a number of fans quit watching.

The pairing remains a favorite to fans to this day. A testament to this first relationship can be seen in fan reaction to Willow's love interest in the last season, potential Slayer Kennedy.

Kennedy and Willow never received the support that Willow and Tara received – not due to the orientations of the characters, but to the character herself.

Medical drama *Grey's Anatomy* includes lesbian couple Callie Torres (Sara Ramirez) and Arizona Robbins (Jessica Capshaw). The relationship has developed over several seasons, and has included marriage and even a daughter. Despite bumps in the road for the last few seasons, fans continue to rally around the couple, especially on social media sites such as Tumblr.

In its first season, MTV's supernatural drama *Teen Wolf* introduced Danny (Keahu Kahuanui), an openly gay lacrosse player and friend to the main characters. Though rarely involved in the mythology arcs of the show, Danny plays his part as a friend. In the first part of the third season, antagonist werewolf Ethan (Charlie Carver) is introduced and soon becomes involved with Danny, despite Danny being ignorant to the supernatural world and Ethan trying to kill Danny's friends.

This relationship is not treated differently than the heterosexual relationships on the show. Danny and Ethan are given depth beyond their relationship, and the relationship itself is given characteristics that quickly endeared it to fans. Kahuanui and Carver are supportive of the relationship off screen, and fans have quickly latched onto "Dethan". Both actors and the relationship between their



LGBT RELATIONSHIPS ON TV The relationship between Tara Maclay (Amber Benson, left) and Willow Rosenberg (Alyson Hannigan, right) on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* was one of the first long-term lesbian relationships portrayed on TV.

characters have been confirmed to return in the second half of the third season, which airs in January.

HBO's hit fantasy drama *Game of Thrones* also includes the relationship between Loras Tyrell, the knightly scion of a powerful family, and Renly Baratheon, a lord and younger brother to King Robert. The television show takes the opportunity to explore this relationship in more depth than it was explored in the novels that the show was adapted from. Even after Renly's death, the relationship remains important to Loras's character.

The hit musical show *Glee* frequently deals with LGBT issues, and among the most successful storylines are those

of several characters coming to terms with their sexuality, with the support of their friends and family.

Among the most popular pairings on the show is that of Kurt Hummel (Chris Colfer) and Blaine Anderson (Darren Criss). Since his introduction in the second season, Blaine has become one of the central characters on the show, with many episodes dedicated to the struggles that he and Kurt face in their relationship. The struggles the two go through are not just the struggles of a LGBT couple: they are the struggles that any couple faces.

Kurt himself has been the center of the show's major storylines. *Glee's* first season saw

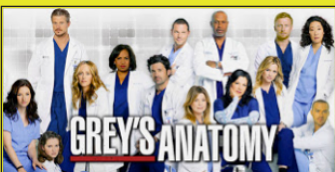
Kurt coming out to his father, in one of *Glee's* most heartwarming scenes. His father Burt's (Mike O'Malley) acceptance of his son's sexuality has been hailed by critics as one of the most poignant scenes on the show, and the relationship between the two has remained strong through five seasons.

As society moves forward with its views and acceptance, television has been doing the same, providing a glimpse into human, three dimensional characters and flawed, complicated relationships – two concepts that are so common in reality, but not always guaranteed on a television show.

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More LGTB in fiction:

Compiled by Danielle Cook '17
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Grey's Anatomy

A medical drama featuring surgeon Callie Torres, who discovers her true orientation and forms a relationship with Arizona Robbins. Callie has to struggle to convince her Catholic parents to accept her choice. The show features Callie and Arizona as independent, and strong women who are not judged or hindered in their careers because of their orientation.



The Birdcage

Engaged couple Val Goldman and Barbara Keeley wish for their parents to meet, but Barbara's parents are very conservative and Val was raised by gay partners who run a drag show. Determined to make a good impression, Val's family undergoes radical changes to their image, but when their plan (of course) goes wrong, it takes a drag queen's thinking to set things right.



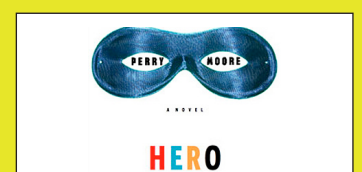
Milk

The movie is based on the life of Harvey Milk, the first openly gay person to be elected into public office. After he and his partner move to California in 1970, Milk works diligently on a campaign so he can help the gay community. Though his struggles are great and his relationships turn downhill, he persists until he is elected, and works for gay rights.



Downtown Los Angeles

This relatively new show features several gay couples whose professions range from math teachers to drag queens. The show is considered 'gay' themed, and the heterosexual couples are the minority. The wife of one of the heterosexual couples is good friends with three gay men and is estranged with her husband.



Hero

Thomas Creed is a closeted gay teenager who is withholding his secret from his homophobic, ex-superhero father. However, he has the ability to heal injuries, and a number of incidents lead to him running away from home and becoming a hero apprentice, fearing what his father and the public will say about his orientation.

AWARENESS

Letters to the Editor

La Vie Collegienne requires all Letters to the Editor to contain the author's name, telephone number, and e-mail address. No initials or pen names will be accepted. *La Vie* does not publish any anonymous letters.

Telephone numbers and email addresses are required for verification. They will not be printed.

Letters should be no longer than 200 words. All letters for submission become property of *La Vie Collegienne*. *La Vie* reserves the right to edit for length, accuracy, and clarity. Submissions may be edited and may be published or otherwise refused.

Letters, columns, and opinion-based articles do not necessarily represent the views of *La Vie* or Lebanon Valley College.

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Green Dot Program creates abuse awareness

ELIZABETH RICHEY '14
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

LVC prides itself on being a welcoming community that's small and safe. That's what attracts so many prospective students and their parents to visit the college each year. However safe the College might be, it's not a perfectly safe campus. Even though perfection is impossible, taking this already-protected campus and making it even safer can be done, and LVC Green Dot has already taken on the task of making LVC a better protected campus.

On September 29, 2013, the members of LVC Green Dot held a Green Dot Ambassador Training Seminar in Neidig-Garber 203. The purpose of the seminar was to initiate the first wave of students at Lebanon Valley College into the Green Dot Task Force, a nationwide group committed to preventing and positively addressing violence. Here, eleven eager students attended a four hour program led by Dr. Marianne Goodfellow, associate professor of Sociology,

and Mike Ritter, the Public Education Coordinator of Domestic Violence Intervention of Lebanon County, to examine different types of violence



Elizabeth Richey / LA VIE

occurring on campus.

Since abuse does occur at LVC, the student trainees were taught how to identify Red Dots, or acts of violence, and the proper steps to effectively intervene, diffuse, and prevent Red Dot situations. In order to

do so, each trainee was given the opportunity to role play several different violent behaviors. Although more severe acts like sexual assault were left out, more

have either been diffused or prevented.

Every student who attended and completed the program was given a Green Dot training booklet, which is intended to be a useful tool for trainees when they encounter Red Dot situations in the future. Participating students also received a certificate that committed each trainee to give up his or her passive bystander status and take on the role of an active bystander, also known as a Green Dot.

When asked why she participated in the Green Dot training program, Lyndsay Riedel '17 said, "Green Dot is a wonderful program to get involved with because you learn how to create a better society....We can all help stop violence one person at a time."

If you are interested in being a part of this proactive movement on campus, please visit <http://www.lvc.edu/greendot/> to view a schedule of upcoming events.

E. RICHEY

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Chaplain Fullmer: What does the Bible say about homosexuality?

Despite its massive size and scope, the Bible approaches the topic of gay and lesbian sexual expression in just five short passages. A consideration of the historical context in which each scripture is written, however, has led many faith-filled pastors, biblical scholars, and practicing Christians to conclude that these passages are in no way applicable to modern same-sex relationships in which adults commit to love each other.

Two of several laws within the ancient Hebrew Purity Code (Leviticus 18-20) forbid same-sex relations. The context is instructive: other laws within this same set prohibit the wearing of fabrics woven from two different

materials. An overriding concern for "purity" drive the texts, perhaps resulting a desire to distinguish an Israelite identity and worship from the Molechite tribes, whose priests may have engaged in sex acts as part of their ritual.

The passage Romans 1:18-32 is part of a larger statement by the Apostle Paul against idolatry. Scholars such as Scroggins note that same-sex relations in first century Rome are almost exclusively exploitative, expressed as pederasty or male prostitution rather than as mutual, committed, loving relationships. In his ancient context, Paul understands homosexuality as divine punishment for idolatry.

The remaining two verses, also from the Apostle Paul, contains specific

Greek words none of which are rightly translated "homosexuality" (NIV). The term *malakos* in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 literally means "soft," connoting a Hellenistic concept of "effeminate" in a cowardly sense. Ancient texts apply the term to both hetero- and homosexual activity. The literal meaning of the Greek term *arsenokoitai* in 1 Timothy 1:9-11 is "male intercourse." This term is almost exclusively found within ancient lists of economic injustices, suggesting a reference to the pederasty and male prostitution which were predominant in the culture.

Other texts which are similarly forced into considerations of modern homosexuality include the Creation Story (Genesis 1-2), a text

which identifies heterosexuality as a dominant phenomenon among humans, but which does not command it. The story of Sodom & Gomorrah (Genesis 18-19; Judges 19) is an engaging story about a gang rape, not same-sex love. In its historical context, the story extols the importance of hospitality to the stranger (cf. Ezek. 16:48-52).

What does the Bible say about gays and lesbians? Nothing; its context knows nothing of the sort.

Interested to learn more? Students are welcome to borrow several resources on the topic from the Hurst Diversity Library (Miller Chapel 114). A two-page bibliography is available in the offices in the lobby of Miller Chapel.

SPORTS

SCHEDULE

Wednesday, 10/16

Men's Soccer
at Stevenson University
7 p.m.

Women's Volleyball
vs Lycoming College
7 p.m.

Friday, 10/18

Men's Ice Hockey
at United States Naval Academy
7 p.m.

Saturday, 10/19

Cross Country
at Gettysburg Invitational
11 a.m.

Field Hockey
at Messiah College
1 p.m.

For more results, visit
GoDutchmen.com

ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

ZACH HALPIN
FOOTBALL



Halpin was a monumental defensive force in the football team's upset over Lycoming on Homecoming Weekend, as he racked up six tackles, four of them sacks. He has six sacks in the last two games.

MELISSA BROSIUS
WOMEN'S LACROSSE



In their dominating performance against Hood, Brosious was the leader in goals with two, as her efforts helped the Dutchmen remain unbeaten in Commonwealth Conference play.

Two conference wins for women's soccer on home turf; record sits at 7-4-2

CODY MANMILLER '16
STAFF WRITER

The women's soccer team at Lebanon Valley experienced a nice week when it comes to results. This past week, they took care of business on their home field against Lycoming College and Alvernia University. This puts them 2-1 in the Commonwealth Conference.

Against Lycoming, LVC jumped off to a fierce start and was already up 4-0 at the halftime break.

Sammy Bost broke it open for the Dutchmen by scoring two goals in the first 13 minutes of the game. Before halftime, Amanda Douglass and Heather Tran also added goals to put the game out of reach with still 45 minutes left to play.

Bost scored again in the second half to complete the hat-trick, while assisting on Douglass' goal as well.

Douglass, who scored the third goal for LVC, had two assists and eight total shots. Amy Overpeck and Taylor Reinhold combined for a clean sheet in goal, while making just one save.

LVC had 32 shots to Lycoming's two.



SURGING SOCCER The team celebrates after a goal during an exciting weekend, which resulted in two wins.

After the domination of Lycoming, LVC was able to play another home game, this one against Alvernia.

Lindi Crist started the game off the right way for Lebanon Valley after striking a free kick into the back of the net to go up 1-0, just 10 minutes in.

Alvernia was able to equalize in the 27th minute.

Lebanon Valley answered back just 13 minutes later, just before halftime, when freshman Johnna Garbrick scored her first career goal. The goal ended up being the last of the game as neither team was able to score in the second half.

The women are on the road for two games this week, against Stevenson University and Albright College. LVC is 7-4-2 overall and 2-1 in conference play.

C. MANMILLER

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Conference opponents drop men's soccer

CODY MANMILLER '16
STAFF WRITER

The week began with a lot of excitement for the men's soccer team as they entered the bulk of conference play. But, the results were not what they had expected.

Lycoming came to Herbert Field and shocked the Dutchmen by winning 2-0. In the 25th minute, a corner was whipped into the box and Connor McNiff was able to head it into the top corner of the net to take an early lead. Lebanon Valley began pressing in the second half for the equalizing goal but Lycoming added another when Adam Kuntz scored to put the game out of reach. Lycoming outshot LVC 8-3 and James Clements had three saves for LVC.

Looking to put the game behind them, the Dutchmen

stayed in Annville when they hosted Alvernia on Sunday. Once again, LVC fell behind early thanks to an Alvernia goal with just over a minute into the game. Cam Alexander did well to score before the 20-minute mark. Alexander brought the ball down with his chest and buried the volley into the side corner. The teams went into halftime tied at 1 and it looked good for LVC. But, Alvernia scored just 2 minutes into the second half, another early goal, and led 2-1 the rest of the game. This was the third game in a row that LVC has lost and they are now 0-3 in conference play.

Lebanon Valley looks to get back on track on the road this week at Stevenson and then Albright on Saturday night.



TOUGH BREAK Alexander's goal was not enough to secure a win.

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SPORTS

Men's and Women's
Soccer recaps p. 7



Halpin and Brosious
earn AOTW p. 7

Highlight of Homecoming

A strong defensive effort powered the Dutchmen to upset #24 Lycoming

DAN CALLAHAN '14
SPORTS EDITOR

Defense is said to win championships, and with the way LVC's defense has been playing lately, that may become a reality for the Dutchmen.

On Homecoming Weekend in the Valley, the football squad hosted No. 24 Lycoming for a MAC showdown, and LVC (5-1, 4-1 MAC) upset the Warriors (4-2, 4-1 MAC) in a defensive battle, 14-7. It was the first time in program history that LVC knocked off a Top 25 opponent.

With the upset, LVC now shares the top of the standings in the MAC, tied with Lyco for first place.

The defense that stopped a strong Warrior offense put up 10 sacks in the game, getting four from Zach Halpin '14 and three from Frank Gaffney '15. On top of that, the rest of the

dominating defense allowed just 50 rushing yards, and hauled in three interceptions.

"Our defense has been doing it all year," head coach Jim Monos said in an interview with GoDutchmen.com following the win. "The defense kept us in the game and the offense took advantage of the opportunities to score."

That offense Monos referred to scored first in the second quarter, on an 8-play, 94-yard drive that ended with a TD pass from junior quarterback Brian Murphy. Jake Zeigler '14 reeled in the touchdown, making it his second of the season.

In a game that featured the little amounts of offensive movement, Zeigler also came up big as the punter. He had six punts, which averaged out to almost 40-yards each, and three went inside the 20-yard line. One punt went over 50-yards.



PROUD COACH Monos is very pleased with his team after their win.

Lyco took a 7-6 lead just after the second half began, but LVC was not finished scoring yet.

In the fourth quarter, Bryan Kasper '14 made his second interception of the season at the best time, and returned it to the Lyco 13-yard line. From there, Murphy tossed the ball to senior Joey Miller in the corner for another touchdown pass.

After completing the two-point conversion, the Dutchmen controlled all of the energy and held the Warrior offense once again to secure the upset.

The Valley will take this big win into their bye week, and come back on October 26 for a game at Misericordia.

D. CALLAHAN

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Field Hockey Honors Novak '12, routs Hood 6-0

DAN CALLAHAN '14
SPORTS EDITOR

The 4-10 Blazers of Hood College were in for a rough game against the surging Dutchmen field hockey team (7-6), with the stage being set for a Homecoming night game with a special ceremony for Jocelyn Novak '12.

Before the game began, Novak became the first field hockey player to have her jersey number (3) retired in the program's history. She became the NCAA Division III leader in all-time goals her senior year.

Novak gave a lot of credit to her past teammates for her

success, and they put on a good show for the recent grad in their 6-0 win over Hood.

Melissa Brosious set the tone offensively to start the game, scoring her first of two goals just 1:37 into the game. Brosious scored her second goal of the game later in the first half.

Other goal scorers for the Dutchmen, all with one goal each, included Lyndee Sheaffer '16, Megan Arnst '17, and Lauren Brumbach '15.

There were a lot of impressive stats from this overpowering win, but the two that stick out the most are LVC outshooting the Blazers 37-1 and also leading corners 24-3.

With the win that extends their win streak to four games, it brings the Valley's record up to 7-6, and still an unbeaten 3-0 in the Commonwealth Conference. The Dutchmen hosted Widener last night (Oct. 15) and was not available for this issue.

The next game will be a conference matchup against rival Messiah, this Saturday Oct. 19 starting at 1 p.m.

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